
SECTION: CERTIFICATION

SUBJECT: Certification Requirements: Services/Information
Provided by the Local Agency at Time of Certification



ITEM: *Ongoing Health Care-Additional Nutritional Assessments:
Prenatal Trimester Checks and Infant Midcertification*

Policy Local agencies shall encourage participants to obtain ongoing health care, and shall provide continued assessment and counseling between certifications based on medical data which is obtained mid-certification, if appropriate.

Standards for Health Care Local agencies which provide ongoing, routine pediatric and/or obstetric care shall do so in accordance with the standards and schedules for comprehensive medical care established by the Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) Program and/or the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) as applicable.

Encourage Ongoing Health Care Local agencies shall advise each participant of the types of health services available, where such services are located, how they may be obtained, and why they may be useful.

Local agencies shall encourage participants to obtain regular prenatal and well-child care. Local agencies shall also encourage prenatal women and infants enrolled prior to seven months of age to obtain medical data from their physician and return such data to the local agency at trimester intervals for women or midcertification nutrition assessment for infants, as specified below. However, participant's failure to make medical data available to the local agency at trimester intervals or midcertification nutrition assessment shall not affect the women's or infant's continued participation in the program.

Requirements for Trimester Assessments (Prenatal Women Only)	<hr/> <p>Repeat nutrition assessments shall be based on the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Anthropometric: Assessment of weight data shall be repeated at trimester intervals if the data is available. Local agencies are encouraged to assess weight gain status on a monthly basis to monitor prenatal weight gain. 2. Biochemical: Hemoglobin or hematocrit values shall be assessed at trimester intervals if medically indicated and if the data is available. 3. Dietary: A dietary evaluation shall be performed at trimester intervals. 4. Physical/Medical: Physical/medical status shall be assessed at trimester intervals if the information is available. <hr/>
Women Enrolled During Last Trimester	<hr/> <p>Trimester assessments of biochemical: anthropometric, dietary, or physical/medical status are not required for prenatal women enrolled after the 26th week of pregnancy. However, local agencies are encouraged to assess any information made available subsequent to the initial certification.</p> <hr/>
Documentation of Trimester Assessments (Prenatal Women Only)	<hr/> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Anthropometric: If weight measurements are available at trimester or more frequent intervals, local agencies are required to plot such measurements on the Prenatal Weight Gain Grid and to document trimester weight data on the woman's certification document. Local agencies are not required to retain source documentation, e.g., referral forms, for trimester assessments of anthropometric status. 2. Biochemical: If hematocrit and/or hemoglobin values are at trimester intervals, local agencies are required to record the data on the woman's certification document. Local agencies are not required to retain source documentation, e.g., referral form, for trimester assessments of biochemical status. 3. Dietary: Local agencies are required to either retain source documentation for trimester assessments of dietary status or to record a summary of the assessment on the woman's certification document or elsewhere in the woman's record. The summary shall include the number of servings consumed in each food group and shall be based on a 24 hour dietary call. 4. Physical/Medical: Local agencies are not required to retain source documentation for trimester assessments or physical/medical status. <hr/>

**Require-
ments for
Counseling at
Trimester**

Refer to WIC 410-20 for specific information regarding counseling prenatal women at trimester assessments.

**Requirement
for
assessment
(infants
enrolled
prior to seven
months of
age)**

Mid certification nutrition assessment shall occur routinely between six and weight months of age, however, if there is difficulty in scheduling the appointment, midcertification nutrition assessment may be given at five months of age. Midcertification nutrition assessment shall be based on the following:

1. Anthropometric: Every effort shall be made to obtain length and weight measurement for infants between six and eight months of age. Length and weight measurement shall be assessed, if available.
 2. Biochemical: Hemoglobin or hematocrit values shall be assessed if medically indicated and if the data is available.
 3. Dietary: A dietary evaluation shall be performed for infants between six and eight months of age.
 4. Physical/Medical: Encourage assessment of physical/medical information, if available.
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**Document-
ation of
Midcertifica
tion
Assessment
(Infants
Enrolled
Prior to
Seven
Months of
Age)**

1. Anthropometric: If length and weight measurements are available, plot on NCHS grid. Refer to WIC 210-60.1 for alternative documentation procedure.
 2. Biochemical: Local agencies are required to retain source document, if available.
 3. Dietary: Local agencies are required to either retain source document for midcertification dietary assessment or to record a summary of the assessment in the infant's record. The summary shall be based on a 24 hour dietary recall or an approved food frequency.
 4. Physical/Medical: Local agencies are required to retain source document for medical data of midcertification nutrition assessment, if available.
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**Require-
ments for
Counseling
at
Midcertifica
tion
Nutrition
Assessment**

Refer to WIC 410-20 for specific information regarding counseling infants enrolled prior to seven months of age for the “first birthday certification”.
